

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 OES-07 A-01 ABF-01 AID-05

L-03 EPAE-00 CEQ-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 EB-08 IO-14

ACDA-12 MCT-01 SNM-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 DODE-00 NRC-07 NSC-05 DOE-15 SOE-02 PER-05

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT, PARA B, LINE 20)

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TATT, AFSP, TGEN, XM, CO

SUBJECT: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION: SCIENCE ATTACHE PROGRAM AND GLOBAL
ISSUES

REF: STATE 118666

1. FOLLOWING IN RESPONSE TO REF QUESTIONS:

A. AS A RESOURCE-RICH, POTENTIALLY WEALTHY DEVELOPING
COUNTRY, COLOMBIA WILL DURING THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS PLACE
INCREASING IMPORTANCE ON ALL THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GLOBAL ISSUES LISTED IN PARAGRAPH 4 OF REF. ALL PRESENT
INDICATIONS ARE THAT DURING THIS PERIOD THE GOVERNMENT OF
COLOMBIA WILL RELY HEAVILY--BUT BY NO MEANS EXCLUSIVELY--
UPON THE USG AND US INSTITUTIONS FOR COOPERATION IN DEVELOPMENT OF
PROJECTS AS WELL AS GENERAL KNOWLEDGE IN
THESE FIELDS. WE ASSUME THAT THE GOC WILL PLACE SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON T
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FOLLOWING: ENERGY TECHNOLOGY, OCEANS, HEALTH AND NUTRITION,
FOOD TECHNOLOGY, NEW TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION TRENDS,
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION,
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AND NARCOTICS INFORMATION SYSTEMS. THESE ISSUES SHOULD THEREFORE
RECEIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION FROM THE U.S. COMPONENTS IN THE
INTEREST OF MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING US-COLOMBIAN RELATIONS.

B. THE EMBASSY IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED TO A SIGNIFICANT
DEGREE IN ALL OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES LISTED
IN PARAGRAPH 4 OF REFERENCE, EXCEPT NUCLEAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY
(WHICH SHOULD SLOWLY ACQUIRE MORE IMPORTANCE IN COLOMBIA

IN FUTURE YEARS) AND COMMUNICATIONS/SPACE TECHNOLOGY (WHERE OUR INVOLVEMENT, PRIMARILY THROUGH IAGS PROGRAM IN LANDSAT AND GEODETIC SATELLITES, WILL INCREASE RAPIDLY). THE SCIENCE ATTACHE, WHOSE PRIMARY FUNCTION IS REGIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER, HAS SERVED IN A REPRESENTATIONAL CAPACITY RATHER THAN AS COORDINATOR OR ACTION OFFICER FOR THESE ACTIVITIES, WHICH ARE DISTRIBUTED AMONG A NUMBER OF EMBASSY COMPONENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, ENERGY TECHNOLOGY IS HANDLED BY THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION AND THE POLITICAL SECTION (NPT) OCEANS, BY THE POLITICAL SECTION (LOS MATTERS) AND THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION; POPULATION, BY PEACE CORPS, AID, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION; NEW TRENDS IN TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, BY THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION. (AID IN COLOMBIA IS BEING PHASED OUT, AND ITS REMAINING ACTIVITIES IN THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ISSUES SHOULD IN MAJOR PART BE ABSORBED BY THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION.) SINCE THIS SYSTEM HAS FUNCTIONED WELL, WE DO NOT FORESEE A NEED TO ASSIGN ADDITIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PERSONNEL DURING THE PERIOD IN QUESTION.

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